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Development (1948) Department.

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Dated 17-9 48

[Despatch Abstract.]

Agriculture - I.C.A.R. - Proceedings of the meeting of the governing body of the Council held on 29-14-1948 - Papers - Recorded -

INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH,
Keeling Road, New Delhi,
No.D.3845/48-G., the 16th July, 1948.

From
The Secretary.
To
The Secretary to the Government of
Madras, Development Department,
Fort St. George, Madras.

Subject:- Indian Council of Agricultural Research
Governing Body Meeting January 1948
Proceedings of -

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.4602 AII/48-9, dated the 24th June 1948, I am directed to say that a copy of the proceedings of the meeting of the Governing Body held in January 1948 was supplied to the Hon'ble Minister for Development, Madras, with this office letter No.F.56(2)/48-G., dated the 17th May, 1948. However, another copy of the same is sent herewith for your reference as desired.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) Ayadhya Prasada,
for Secretary.

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For Departmental use and for the use of members only.

Proceedings of the meeting of the Governing Body of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research held at New Delhi on the 29th January, 1948.

The following were present;

MEMBERS.

1. The Hon'ble Shri Jairamdas Daulatram, Minister for Agriculture and Food, Government of India - Chairman.
2. Sardar Bahadur Sir Datar Singh, Vice-Chairman, Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
3. Shri B.R. Sen, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.
4. The Hon'ble Capt. Ranjit Singh, Minister for Development, East Punjab.
5. The Hon'ble Shri R.K. Patil, Minister for Food and Agriculture C.P. and Berar.
6. The Hon'ble Shri Nityanand Kanungo, Minister for Law, Development, Commerce, and Labour, Orissa.
7. Shri W.R.S. Satthianadhan, I.C.S., Secretary to Government of Madras, Development Department.
8. Rai Bahadur B.N. Sarkar, Director of Agriculture, Bihar.
9. The Hon'ble Shri H. Siddaiya, Minister for Agriculture and Public Works, Mysore.
10. Shri N.G. Apte, Water Supply Consultant, Poona.
11. Shri J. McIntyre, Director, Imperial Chemical Industries (Indian), Limited, New Delhi.

Shri S.M. Srinivastava, I.C.S., Secretary, Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

VISITORS.

1. Shri Ram Gopal, Financial Adviser, Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
2. Rai Bahadur R.L. Sehti, Agricultural Commissioner with the Government of India.
3. Rai Bahadur P.N. Nanda, Animal Husbandry Commissioner with the Government of India.
4. Rai Bahadur S.C. Sarkar, Under Secretary, Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
5. Shri V.D. Thawani, Statistical Adviser, Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
6. Dr. G.S. Cheema, Fruit Development Adviser to the Government of India.
7. Dr. T.G. Shirname, Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India.
8. Shri I.B. Chatterji, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner with the Government of India.
9. Shri H.K. Lall, Assistant Animal Husbandry Commissioner with the Government of India.
10. Shri K.P.R. Kartha, Registrar, Central Herd Books, I.C.A.R.
11. Dr. U.N. Chatterji, Editor, I.C.A.R.
12. Shri A.R. Vyas, Deputy Principal Information Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.

In opening the proceedings the Hon'ble Shri Jairamdas Daulatram, Chairman, Indian Council of Agricultural Research said as follows:-

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all here for this the seventeenth meeting of the Governing Body of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. It is the first meeting of the Governing Body after the attainment of Independence and the partition of the Country. The changes necessitated in the constitution of the Council on this account have been approved at a Special General Meeting of the Council held recently and they have been brought into force with immediate effect. I take this opportunity of welcoming the representatives of the two newly created provinces of West Bengal and East Punjab and ~~also the~~

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also the representative of Jaipur State which has joined the Council only recently.

I would first of all like to refer to the most important need of the country at the present moment, I mean the necessity of doing all we can to improve its food situation. We hardly realise the truth that probably no problem is more important for our country than that of food. It ought to be given the priority which is its due. Napoleon's dictum that "the army marches on its belly" is as true to-day as it was a century and a half ago. We must make India self-sufficient in regard to food, and that also soon. I wish the Centre and the Provinces combined materially to increase the sowings of May and September 1948. The task before us is of a very emergent character and we require the active co-operation of every individual in the country in tackling this great problem. As you are all aware for several years now India has failed to produce the food it requires and the partition of the country has made the position worse. It is incumbent on the Council in common with other national organisations to do its utmost to bridge the gap by undertaking useful research for both short and long term plans and by transferring the practical results of such reserch to the farmer's field. I am gratified to find that this problem has already received the attention of the Advisory Board who have stressed the necessity of chalkin out a programme of urgent research to help the campaign of Food self-sufficiency. I am glad also that the necessity for having suitable legislation on certain important aspects of the problem has also been carefully considered by that body, and I hope the matter will be taken up in right earnest by all concerned.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

One particular point I would like to mention in this connection is that with the exclusion of certain tracts from the Indian Union the situation regarding protective foods such as fruits and vegetables and fish has considerably deteriorated. I understand that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, is calling a Conference of Horticulturists some time in March next. I have no doubt that the Conference will review the present position and suggest practical methods for meeting the shortage of fruits and vegetables in the Union. An urgent review of the position in respect of other articles of food-stuffs e.g. fish, milk, potatoes etc. will also be required. Several other nations do not consume per capita as much cereals as we do and yet have better physique and health. India's present shortage in regard to cereals could also be easily remedied if the national altered its dietotic habits and consumed other foodstuffs. I hope that the Council will conduct a proper research into all these so as to make India self-sufficient in Food.

HIGEST PRIORITY TO FOOD SUPPLY

While research must be concentrated on the task of evolving better and higher yielding varieties of crops, in discovering better cultural practices and in placing more efficient tools in the hands of the cultivators, while due attention must be paid to the improvement of the animal husbandry resources of the country and while, as I have already said, the highest priority should be given to the increase of the food supply of the country, attention must also be given to the eradication of pests and diseases of crops and cattle in order that the country may be saved from enormous losses of foodstuffs for which these are responsible. I am glad therefore to find that a serious attempt is going to be made to control the wheat rust and other pests which affect crops and animals. As regards wheat rust, the Central Government have set up a Committee to co-ordinate the work of control and Government will finance the carrying out of this important work.

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Survey and improvement of soils, production an use of manures and fertilisers and manurial and varietal trials as recommended in the extremely valuable report submitted by Dr. Stewart have also to be undertaken. I am sure that if the experiments recommended in the report are conducted not only on individual cultivators' fields but also on an all-India basis they will yield valuable data regarding the optimum yields of crops.

PLANNED DEVELOPMENT ESSENTIAL.

As you are aware, there is a serious dearth of technic personnel in the country at the moment and Government has taken upon itself the responsibility for sending men abroad for purposes of training. I hope that in the near future w shall have ample technical staff needed for our plans of progress. But even then the main problem will remain viz., to link our existing man-power with the vast material resources of the country and to develop them according to a plan, for in planned scientific development only lies the salvation of the country. I am glad, therefore, to know that the Council has taken up the question of undertaking research on the basis of a planned programme from the Centre and on a regional basis. In framing our plans for agricultural progress we should work for a reasonable degre of a regional self-sufficiency in regard to food. I have every hope that the provinces will give in this matter thei fullest co-operation.

I think the Council was wise in amending its Charter to include developmental research and activities, for, in my opinion development cannot be divorced from research but must proceed hand in hand together. I shall be very much interested to know the results of the Delhi Developmen Scheme which the Council intends to work out. I understand that the intention is to apply all known improved practices in agriculture and animal husbandry in certain selected villages near about Delhi in order to prove to the cultivators what can be achieved by tackling their problems scientifically.

AGRICULTURE AND COST OF PRODUCTION.

The economic aspect of the Council's researches shoul also be kept in view. As one of my predecessors had once said, a poor country like India can ill-afford "Ivory Tower research divoced from the realities of life and of the needs of its cultivators. I welcome, therefore, the experiment that you propose to carry out regarding putting the "cow on the plough". Science must be utilised to serve the needs of the country but at the same time the economic aspect must not be overlooked. Agriculture being the most important industry in the country the cost of production must play an important part in all the activities of the Council. I was interested to know that the Council had bee carrying out crop-cutting experiments for some years now and that these experiments had been found to be very useful in estimating the crop yields in the provinces. Crop estimation is by far the most important spect in the Country's economy and I hope that the Union as a whole will adopt the technique in due course

PUBLICITY

I regret to say, however, that one aspect of the Council's activities has not yet received the attentio it deserves, that is its publicity and propaganda side. The Council must function effectively as the clearing house of information relating to agricultural and animal husbandr research and I would, therefore, suggest that its informational activities must be put on a satisfactory basis as early as possible.

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The partition of the country has prejudically affected the financial resources of the Council and the income expected from the levy of a cess on agricultural produce is bound to fall in future. If the Council is to function satisfactorily it will be necessary for it to be provided with more funds than it can expect to get out the cess. I hope that this body will make a strong representation to Government so that it may agree to make a suitable recurring grant to the Council for at least some years to come. I understand that the Advisory Board have recommended that the Government of India should be asked for necessary grants in connection with certain important activities e.g.(a) carrying out of the agronomic and varietal trials recommended in Dr. Stewart's report, (b) utilisation of bone meals, (c) carrying out of research on tubers, etc. I think this is a step in the right direction and hope that Government will come forward with liberal grants required for these and other purposes. It is impossible for this organisation to serve the people of India unless its financial resources are very ample

There are two other matters a reference to which is, I feel, called for in view of the circumstances existing in the country.

PLANT PROTECTION.

Heavy loss to food crops in India is being caused by insect pests and plant diseases, amounting roughly to about 500 crores of rupees. This damage is caused not only to crops when growing in the fields but also to grains after harvest and during storage, in fact till they are processed and consumed.

Several important authorities such as the Indian Famine Commission (1943), the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, have suggested very high priority to plant protection work in Food production programmes and in fact the Council of the F.A.O. have expressed the opinion that this single factor if properly attended to, can considerably reduce the food deficit of the world.

A good deal of the loss caused by pests and diseases can be avoided if control operations are taken in time and in a properly organised manner. It is therefore imperative that provinces should establish adequate Plant Protection Organisations for carrying out field scale control operations against more serious pests and diseases. The most essential pre-requisite for establishing such organisations is the appointment of well qualified Entomologists and Mycologists at the provincial headquarters. At present only the three provinces of U.P., Bombay and Madras have such experts and these provinces are taking steps to establish Plant Protection Services for field work. The rest of the provinces, many of them are deficit. should emulate the examples of these provinces.

Control operations against some serious pests can be undertaken by simple methods, while others require power-operated sprayers and dusting machines which are unfortunately not so far available in India. Arrangements are being made for the import of a small number of such machines which after trial for a season or two will be selected as model for the manufacture, if possible, of such machinery on a large scale in India. As regards pests and diseases which can be controlled by other methods, the number of such enemies of food is also large, the Plant Protection Adviser to the Government of India is going round the provinces and suggesting in consultation with local experts what pests and diseases can be tackled immediately with the facilities available. It is hope during 1948 all provinces will endeavour to control th

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these sabotaures of our food resources which, are today inadequately for the needs of the country. The Plant Protection Quarantine and Storage Organisation of the Ministry of Agriculture will always be available for any assistance of the spot which the provinces may require. It need hardly be emphasized that the urgency of establishing provincial organisations is great.

MARKETING PROBLEMS.

The question of marketing of agricultural produce also needs attention. Though all provinces recognise the importance of improvements in Agricultural Marketing, of late there has been a tendency to side-track the subject and in some provinces the organisation which had been set up to deal with the problem has been disbanded. In the East Punjab there has been a complete breakdown while in the United Provinces orders were recently issued to disband the office of the Chief Marketing Officer. Assam disbanded the Marketing Staff in April, 1947

In the majority of provinces the Marketing Staff was utilised for Civil Supplies work since after the break of war and consequently there was a dislocation in marketing work. I would request all provincial Governments to take stock of the existing agricultural marketing problems and immediately formulate and execute new schemes of marketing with special reference to co-operative marketing, regulation of weights and measures organisation of regulated markets and introduction of quality standards.

I do not wish to add to the length of my remarks at to-day's meeting by referring to other equally important matters. I would now invite you to takeup the fairly long agenda which has been placed before the meeting.

Subject No.1.

Action taken on decisions of a general nature of the Governing Body made at its meeting held in September, 1946.

Sardar Bahadur Sir Datar Singh, Vice-Chairman, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, said that the Governing Body of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research had taken three decisions of a general nature at its meeting held in September, 1946. The first was in respect of the method of preparation of the budget of the Council. This matter was still under examination and suitable action to implement the recommendation would be taken in consultation with the Financial Adviser, Indian Council of Agricultural Research shortly. The second suggestion regarding the transfer of the Central Herd Book Section to the Administrative side had already been given effect to. The third suggestion that the name of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research should be changed to "Indian Council of Agricultural Research" had also been adopted

The Governing Body

Subject No.2

Budget estimates of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for 1947-48, and 1948-49.

Dealing with the Budget Estimates of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for the years 1947-48 and 1948-49 the Vice-Chairman explained why two years' budget estimates

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~~estimates~~ of the Council were approved by the Governing Body after the commencement of the year to which they related. This was due to the fact that the Standing Finance Committee of the Council and the Governing Body used to meet sometime between July and September each year and it was not possible to prepare the estimates of income and expenditure of the following year before that time. According to the revised procedure just introduced the Standing Finance Committee and the Governing Body would usually meet in November or December and it would therefore be possible to present the budget in due time for consideration by the Governing Body.

Members were aware that according to the revised procedure the period involved in financing a scheme from the date of its submission would be reduced from 19 to about 7 months. The procedure could not be introduced earlier owing to the recent disturbances.

The Governing Body decided last year that the Council's income from the A.P. Cess for 1947-48 should be taken at Rs.15 lakhs, but on account of the partition of the country involving transfer of two important ports, viz., Karachi and Chittagong to Pakistan, the Council's income would decrease and it had been estimated that the amount which would be rereceived as cess would be about Rs.12 lakhs only during the current year and Rs.10 lakhs during the next year. The Standing Finance Committee had recommended the acceptance of these estimates.

The other point in the budget was about putting some money in the reserve fund. It had been laid down in the Rules that if the income from the cess exceeded Rs.14 lakhs a sum of Rs.2½ lakhs had to be put in the reserve fund. The last year's income from the cess was Rs.19.06 lakhs and therefore it had been recommended that a sum of Rs.2½ lakhs should be placed in the reserve fund. As the income during 1947-48 and 1948-49 was likely to be less than Rs.14 lakhs it had been further suggested that no amount should be transferred to that fund in respect of these two years.

On the 'receipts' side of the budget, provision had been made as usual for "Grants from 'Indian States, ' 'Interests from investiments', 'Miscellaneous receipts' and 'grants anticipated from Government'". On the "expenditure" side provision had been made for the current schemes on the basis of the grants sanctioned excepting in the case of one scheme viz., that relating to the Anti-Malarial Operation in Arecanut growing areas for which sanction of the Governing Body could not be obtained earlier.

The total income of the Council for 1947-48 was estimated at Rs.15.76 lakhs and that for 1948-49 at Rs.11.85 lakhs respectively.

The expenditure on the schemes already sanctioned during the two years was estimated at Rs.32.46 lakhs and Rs.11.55 lakhs respectively. Some expenditure would also have to be incurred on new schemes which might be sanctioned by the Governing Body at the present meeting. The deficit would be made good by drawing on the balance in hand, which on the Ist of April, 1947, amounted to Rs.63.61 lakhs including balances of special grants received from the Government of India.

Mr. N.G. Apte said that the Council had been publishing Indian Farming and some other scientific journals on a permanent basis and asked whether anything was being done

to put the publication Branch of the Council and its staff on a permanent footing? If the Council wanted to publicise valuable results of researches in a satisfactory manner it was essential that its staff to do that work should be efficient and contented. The Publication Branch of the Council was being continued on a tempo basis and was being extended from year to year. (y He suggested that it should be placed on a permanent footing.

The Hon'ble the Chairman said that he would have the questions of making the staff permanent and of providing better facilities for the Council's publication work examined.

The Governing Body approved of the budget estimates of the Council for the year 1947-48 and 1948-49.

Subject No.3.

Financial position of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

The Vice-Chairman said that a note of the financial position of the Council had been circulated to the members. The position regarding the grants received from the Government of India for specific schemes had been explained in para 2 thereof. These grants were to be utilised for expenditure on the schemes for which they were meant. Some time the Council was asked by the Government of India to do certain items of work and for these special grants were given.

The position regarding the general funds of the Council had been set out in paras.3-5 of the note. It was expected that there would be an unallotted balance of Rs.12.70 lakhs on the 1st April, 1948. The income for 1948-49 had been estimated at Rs.11.74 lakhs. A sum of Rs.2.16 lakhs would also be available by the resumption of allotments already made for schemes which had been closed down before time, postponed or abandoned. This would mean that the total money available for allotment would be over Rs.26 lakhs. Out of this money the Standing Finance Committee had recommended that a sum of Rs.2½ lakhs should be placed at the disposal of the Standing Finance Committee for sanctioning new and extension schemes under the powers delegated to it. A sum of Rs.1 lakh had been placed at the disposal of the Vice-Chairman as usual to enable him to sanction additonal grants, where necessary, under the provisions of the Bye-laws of the Council.

The remaining balance of Rs.23.10 lakhs would be available for allotment to the different schemes. A sum of Rs.62,000 would be required for meeting the standing charges of the Council.

The total immediate requirements of the Council would be as follows:-

		Rs.(lakhs)
1	Standing charges	.62
2	Schemes included in Annexure I	1.07
3	Schemes included in Annexure II	13.09
4	Schemes included in Annexure III	.82
5	Schemes included in Annexure IV	33.10
6	Delhi Development Scheme	10.20
7	Cattle Insurance Committee	.16
8	Additional grant for Tuberculosis and Johne's Diseases Scheme	.12
	Total	59.18

Funds would also be required for contribution to the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux which had been recommended by the Standing Finance Committee at Rs.26,600 per annum.

There was likelihood of one more liability also. The Governing Body at its last meeting decided that two Deputy Commissioners and four Assistant Commissioners should be added to the staff of the Council to enable it to sanction schemes promptly and to see that research schemes were progressing satisfactorily. The question of this additional staff was under the consideration of the Government of India but if the Government did not see its way to provide this staff it would be necessary to sanction funds from the Research Funds as it would not be possible to carry on without this additional staff

It would be seen from Annexures I and II that a large amount of money - a sum of Rs.13,09,545 would have to be spent on the Council's schemes normally. All the money required was not, however, being provided because it would be seen from the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee that a High Power Committee would have to be appointed to review the whole work of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The idea was that the experts of the Council would go round and see all schemes of the Council and submit report indicating whether the money was being spent properly and the work was being carried on efficiently or whether the schemes should be closed down. These reports would be placed before the proposed committee and then to the Advisory Board ~~Board~~ and Governing Body and it was hoped that the entire work would be finished within a year. It was for this reason that instead of providing funds for the full period it had been proposed to provide money required for one year only.

Mr. Apte inquired whether the Committee would be composed of only officials

The Vice-Chairman said that the Advisory Board had recommended that that the Vice-Chairman should be authorised to appoint a small committee whose report would be discussed by the Advisory Board and then by the Governing Body. On receipt of the reports of the experts of the Council it would be necessary to select the personnel. In all such committees representation for non-officials was usually provided.

Mr. Apte said that opinions as to whether a scheme was being worked properly might differ. For example, a scheme regarding wells in the Bombay Province was being worked out. There was a difference of opinion between the Engineering Section and the Agriculture Section of the Province as regards the merits of the experiments. In his opinion there should be a non-official also on the committee

The Vice-Chairman said that he would welcome the suggestion if it had been a practicable one. There were more than 300 schemes going on all over the Indian Union and most of them were of a highly technical nature. Technical officers would have to go round visiting these schemes, discuss technical matters with the workers, of the scheme, the Directors of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry of the province and if need be with the Hon'ble Ministerver incharge then they would have to submit their reports. His idea was to take the assistance of the technical experts of the Central Research Institutes for the purpose of considering the reports of the experts of the Council. The criticism made by the former would then be put up along with the reports to the Scientific and Commodity Committees,

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Advisory Board and then to the Governing Body. If a non-Advisory Board and then to the Governing Body. If a non-official was to be asked to go round, it would take a very long time and it would not be possible to achieve the results of the visit within a reasonable time. Secondly that non-official would not be in a position to give his views on all matters. He might be a very emident scientist but he is likely to be expert only in the one line. Therefore his suggestions was that the experts should first go round prepare their reports after discussion with the officers concerned which might be put before the Council.

Rai Bahadur D.N. Sarkar (Representing Bihar) inquired whether all the schemes that were current or new schemes that would be sanctioned would be financed up to 31st March, 1949. Was it intended that all scheme whether old or new could end on the 31st March, 1949 and after the Committee had reviewed the question of continuing or discontinuing would be decided.

The Vice-Chairman said that the idea was to provide funds only up to 31st March, 1949 because if certain scheme were financed for a longer period and it was found that the were not good enough, then an awkward posistion might arise

The Governing Body noted the financial position of the Council and recorded the Note.

Subject No.4.

Acceptance of certain grants from the Government of India:

The Vice-Chairman said that the Government of India had given the Council special grants of a total sum of Rs.9.69 lakhs for crop-cutting and areca-nut schemes as detailed in the note circulated to the members. These grants had been accepted in anticipatedion of the sanction of the Governing Body under Rule 28 of the Rules and Regulations of the Council. The Governing Body might now approve of the action taken. This had been recommended by the Standing Finance Committee. The grants were as follows:

(a) Crop-cutting scheme on paddy 1946-47	Rs.1,51,500
(b) Crop-cutting scheme on wheat 1947-48	Rs.1,80,000
(c) Crop-cutting scheme on paddy 1947-48	Rs.1,37,500
(d) Improvement of arecanut	[illegible]
Total	Rs.9,69,000

Mr. Apte inquired whether these grants would be continued in future.

The Vice-Chairman said that the Council was acting as an agent. If it got the money it would continue the work, otherwise not.

The Chairman said that the Council must play a very active part in the food production of the country. Therefore it must press for more finances from the Central Government.

Mr. H. Siddaiya (Minister, Mysore) inquired whether the grants were constant or not, For 1947-48 Crop-cutting Scheme on Paddy, the amount was less by Rs.14,000.

The Vice-chairman said that the account had been based on actual estimate. In some province the Provincial Governments had provided more staff or had spent more money from their funds. Therefore, there was sometimes a variation.

The Governing Body approved of the action of the Vice-Chairman in accepting the grants and noted the position.

Subject No.5.

Resumption of unspent balance out of allotments made for schemes which had been terminated before time, postponed or abandoned

The Vice-Chairman said that a list of schemes which had been closed before time, postponed or abadoned was given in the note circulated to the members and suggested that as the unspent balances of funds allotted for these schemes would no longer be balances of funds a required for expenditure on the schemes, that might be resumed. The amount involved was Rs.2.16 lakhs. The Standing Finance Committee had also recommended this suggestion for acceptanc The Governing Body approved of the proposal.

Subject No.6.

Resumption of unspent balances out of allotments made for schemes abandoned area result of partition of the countr

The Vice-Chairman said that as the members were aware there were schemes running the N.W.F.P., Sind, Baluchistan, East Bengal, West Punjab, These provinces or areas had now been transferred to the Dominion of Pakistan. The Council was not therefore in a position to administer these schemes and longer as a registered body it had decided to function only in the Dominion of India. It was proposed that these schemes might be treated as having terminated so far as the Council was concerned with effect from the 15th August, 1947 and the unspent balances of grants sanctioned for these schemes might be resumed. Some of the existing schemes might have to be continued with necessary modifications in West Bengal and East Punjab. In these cases also the original schemes might be deemed to have terminated on 14th August 1947 and the new schemes sanctioned from the following day.

As the states of Kashmir and Hyderabad were maintaining their connections with the Indian Dominion, the schemes already working in these states might be allowed to continue as hitherto

These proposals had been recommended by the Standing Finance Committee for sanction.

As regards West Bengal and East Punjab it was thought that these two newly created provinces would require generous help from the Council at the initial stages. It was intended to utilize the funds resumed for the purpose of helping these province.

Captain Ranjit Singh (Minister, East Punjab) appreciated the proposed move and supported the proposal.

The Governing Body approved of the proposal.

Subject No.7

Determination of priority and allotment of funds for 1948-49 for research schemes:

(A) Standing Charges.
(b) Extension of schemes already sanctioned by the Governing Body but not for the full period recommended by the Advisory Board(Annexure I.)
(c) Extension of schemes recommended by the Advisory Board (Annexure II).
(d) New schemes postponed for consideration by the Governing Body at its last meeting held in September, 1946 (Annexure III).
(e) New Schemes recommended by the Advisory Board in March, 1947 and January, 1948 for sanction(Annexure IV).

The Vice-Chairman said that as already pointed out the total amount of funds required immediately for meeting the standing charges and financing schemes already recommended by the Advisory Board was over Rs.59 lakhs, while the amount of funds available was Rs.23.10 lakhs only. This latter figure included a sum of Rs.10.32 lakhs reserved by the Governing Body for financing research on eleven items of all-India importance and also a sum of Rs.2.16 lakhs, which had become available by the resumption of unspent balances of allotments previously made. The Governing Body might now consider how the funds in hand should be allotted.

The Standing Finance Committee had recommended that a sum of Rs.62,000 might be allotted to standing charges and a sum of Rs.1.07 lakhs for the extension of schemes included in Annexure I to the Agenda.

As regards schemes included in Annexure II which had been recommended by the Advisory Board for extension, the Standing Finance Committee had recommended that, pending review of all the current schemes these might be extended upto the 31st March, 1949 only. This would require a sum of Rs.6.70 lakhs.

As regards new schemes included in Annexure III and IV, the Standing Finance Committee had arranged them in an order of priority as indicated in the statement attached to the proceedings of the Committee. The Committee had recommended that the schemes allotted Priority 'A' should be financed during 1948-49. Their cost would be Rs.6.17 lakhs only.

One of the new schemes recommended for sanction was the 'Balanana Research Scheme - Madras'. The Madras Government had since intimated that the Council's share of expenditure on that scheme would increase by Rs.23,700 owing to revision of scales of pay, increase in the rates of dearness allowance, etc. This additional money would be allotted out of Rs.4½ lakhs which were reserved by the Governing Body last year for meeting the cost of such increases in cost.

The Governing Body noted the position and approved of the recommendations of the Standing Finance Committee regarding priority and financing of the various schemes mentioned in their report.

Subject No.8

New and extension schemes not recommended by the Advisory Board for sanction (Annexure V).

The Vice-Chairman said that a list of new and extension schemes which had not been recommended by the Advisory Board for

for sanction had been given in Appendix V. This was only for information.

The Governing Body noted the position.

Subject No.8-A.

Delegation of powers to the Vice-Chairman, to---------

Sardar Bahadur Sir Datar Singh, Vice-Chairman, Indian Council of Agricultural Research said that while considering the financial position of the Council, the Standing Finance Committee considered that it would be desirable for the officers of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research to visit the schemes once every year to see that they were working satisfactorily. The Standing Finance Committee recommended that the Vice-Chairman should be authorised to close down schemes which were not working satisfactorily, in anticipation of the approval of the Governing Body so that money might not be wasted on these schemes.

Mr. Apte said that it would not be desirable to delegate powers to the Vice-Chairman for the reasons that one man would not be competent to judge whether a particular scheme was working satisfactorily or not. He suggested that the powers to close a scheme should be vested in the Standing Finance Committee.

The Vice-Chairman said that this power would be exercised by him only on the advice of the experts after consultation with the Directors of Agriculture concerned. Such cases would also come up before the Council's Committees - Advisory Board and the Governing Body. The action taken would, therefore, be within the knowledge of provincial Ministers and Directors of Agriculture or Veterinary Services. If, however, the Governing Body thought that this power should be vested in the Standing Finance Committee, he would have no objection.

Mr. Sathianadhan, (representative of Madras) suggested that the powers should be vested in the Vice-Chairman. This would mean the withholding of a scheme temporarily. If the powers were to be with the Standing Finance Committee, it was going to lead to too much delay.

The Hon'ble Mr. Siddaiya (Mysore) said that waste of funds should be prevented. If any member desires to raise the issue, the opinion of the members of the Governing Body may be obtained in that case.

Rao Bahadur B.N. Sarkar said that the decision that was proposed to be taken was a very sound one. The whole question was discussed at the Advisory Board Meeting. The Council had been financing too many small schemes in the past and also such schemes in which there was no justification to be continued.

The Hon'ble Capt. Ranjit Singh said that this was a very sound proposal. He thought, however, that after the review had been made this power should be withdrawn.

The Vice-Chairman said that it was not the idea to have these powers for all time. He would like to assure the House that he would consult the Hon'ble Minister concerned before closing down a scheme.

The Hon'ble Mr. R.K. Patil (Minister, C.P. & Berar) said that he did not know if in item 8 - Extension schemes not recommended by the Advisory Board for sanction - some of the C.P. schemes were also included. He had given a list of schemes put up by the C.P. about which nothing had been heard yet. He wished to know whether they had been considered, accepted or rejected or were still under consideration of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

The Vice-Chairman said that if details of these schemes could be furnished to him he might be able to give information. Such schemes, as are not received in time for consideration by the Scientific Committees and the Advisory Board, are usually held up; Provinces and States have been repeatedl informed that all schemes must reach the Council by the due dates. The Vice-Chairman promised to let the Hon'ble Minister have information about the C.P. schemes as soon as possible.

The Governing Body then approved of the proposed delegation of powers to the Vice-Chairman.

Subject No.9.

Election of members to the Standing Finance Committee.

The Vice-Chairman said that according to the constitution of the Standing Finance Committee five members of the Committee had to be elected by the Governing Body annually. One of these was to be elected from amongst the representatives of the Central Legislature on the Governing Body. Of the other four, one was to be a representative of the Agriculturists. He suggested Hon'ble Minister of Agriculturistse from U.P., C.P. and Mysore and Sir T. Vijaraghavacharya.

members were entirely free, however, to suggest any other substitutes.

Mr. Apte suggested that a representative of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce should be on this Committee, and he, as the President thereof might be selected. Commerce was one of the important factors in agriculture and previously two representatives were taken, one from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and the other from the Associated Chambers of Industry. The importance of Commerce in Agriculture should not be lost sight of and there should be at least one person to represent it.

The Chairman said that this matter would have to be carefully considered. The constitution provided that the Federation should be represented on the Governing Body. When the question of representation of Commerce was considered it was probably felt sufficient that the Federation should be represented on the Governing Body only. Now a claim had been made to lay down a further principle that the Federation must also be represented on the Standing Finance Committee as a matter of rule

Mr. Apte said that it was not his suggestion that the Federation should be there as a matter of rule. It would, however, be desirable to have a representative of Commerce on the Standing Finance Committee. If the Governing Body felt that it was not necessary, he would have no objection. But the main point was that since agriculture and commerce were so much dependent on each other he felt that there should be a place for commerce in the Committee.

The Chairman said that there were more than one ~~economi~~

economic interests in the country. One interest was represented by commerce. There were others e.g., agriculture, cultivators, agricultural labourers etc. There would be many others and he doubted whether it would be right to give such separate representations to individual sections more or less as an obligatory convention. In his opinion, when an Hon'ble Minister was present in the Standing Finance Committee, he did not function merely as an agriculturist or a representative of a particular organisation but he represented the general interests of the country. There were to be 3 members from the Assembly and they would represent more or less all interests. It was not desirable to lay down a procedure by which sectional interests should be represented in the Standing Finance Committee. He felt that the commercial interests would be safegaurded by a number of representatives. It would be in the interest of the country that all Provinces should be represented by rotation and those who have had no representation upto so far should be given a preference. One question should be raised independently as an amendment to the Council's constitution.

Mr. Apte regretted that he differed from the views of the Chairman. If the past records of the representatives of the Federation were consulted, it would be found that they faithfully represented the needs of the nation. The Federation had been working in co-operation with the Government of India, and was an all-India body which represented about 150 commercial organisations in the country.

Rao Bahadur B.N. Sarkar said that the Council was a body of agricultural research workers. Once the constitution was modified to include representative of the Indian Federation of Commerce, then it would be impossible to resist claims of other institutions. He would thus be inclined to oppose any sectional representation in this body because if the concession was extended to the Federation then representation would have to be given to the Labour Federation, Kisan Sabha etc. and thus there would be no end.

The Hon'ble Capt. Ranjit Singh said that due to partition of the country only Punjab and Bengal had been affected. Punjab had lost most of the canals, the Veterinary College which was one of the best colleges in the country, the Agricultural College which was at Lyallpur. Likewise West Bengal also had been affected adversely. He would not particularly stress that Punjab should be represented on this Committee, but he felt that if this opportunity was given to any one of these two provinces to remain in contact more than any other province, then it would be in the best interest of the country because both these poor provinces had to rebuild all their departments, particularly the Departments of Animal Husbandry and Agriculture. If, as he thought, Punjab was going to have the Bhakra dam very soon it would be possible to produce more food than any other of the bigger provinces in the country. It would, therefore, be advisable to give representation to Punjab and Bengal.

The Hon'ble Mr. N. Kanungo (Minister, Orissa) said that there was no question of improving upon the present constitution of the Committee by adding to it representatives of as many sections as possible. In that case the cohesion of the Committee would be lost. It would be wrong in principle to adopt the convention of sectional representation.

The Chairman said that with regard to East Punjab

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it was thought that the East Punjab Minister and others had very urgent problems to deal with, problems relating to peace, law and order, food etc. and it would not be right to disturb them for this purpose. He would have no objection, however, to include Punjab. Then there would be four ministers, one each from the U.P., C.P., East Punjab and Mysore, and one member was to be appointed out of the 3 representatives to be nominated by the Constituent Assembly on the Governing Body.

Mr. Sathianadhan inquired whether it was the idea to drop Dewan Bahadur Sir T.Vijayaraghavacaharya. His idea was that Sri T. Vijayaraghavacharya might be there as a man from Madras and a system of rotation could be adopted.

The Chairman said that personally he would like to have some of convention; for example if a large number of matters had to be dealt with by Madras, the Council would ask some members from Madras to come and discuss things themselves. But that should not affect the composition of the body.

The Governing Body elected the following to be members of the Standing Finance Committee, viz., the Hon'ble Ministers in charge of Agriculture in the U.P., C.P. and Berar, East Punjab and Mysore in addition to one member to be appointed by the Honourable Minister out of 3 representatives to be nominated by the Constituent Assembly on the Governing Body,

Subject No.10.

Expenditure incurred from the Miscellaneous grant in the budget estimates for 1946-47.

The Vice-Chairman said that a recurring grant of Rs.3,000 had been placed at the disposal of the Vice-Chairman to incur expenditure on miscellaneous items unconnected with any particular scheme. The actual expenditure amounted to Rs.4,987. Sanction was now requested to the extra expenditure amounting to Rs.1,987 incurred on this account.

The Governing Body sanctioned the additional expenditure.

Subject No.11.

Rate of interest on subscriptions and contributions on the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Provident Fund for 1946-47.

The Vice-Chairman said that the balances at the credit of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Providend Fund were kept in Post Office Savings Bank accounts at the places where the schemes were running. Under the existing arrangements, it had not been possible to collect them and invest them in a more profitable manner. A proposal to centralise the Provident Fund accounts was being put before the Governing Body separately. Meanwhile, it was proposed to pay interest on subscriptions and contributions to the Fund at the same rate as was allowed by the Post Office Savings Bank. The proposal had been recommended by the Standing Finance Committee.

The Governing Body approved of the proposal.

Subject No.12.

Delhi Development Schem

The Vice-Chairman said that the Hon'ble the Chairman had referred to this scheme in his opening remarks. This was a pilot scheme to put on the farmers' fields all the known improvements and results of researches which had been carried out in the experimental stations and it was hoped that the object would be achieved. The total expenditure ~~was~~

as Rs.10,00,600/- which had been curtailed to Rs.8 lakhs for five years.

In September, 1944 the Governing Body recommended that provinces and States should undertake schemes for the development of compact groups of villages in selected areas. A scheme had accordingly been drawn up for improving both agriculture and animal husbandry in two compact blocks one in an irrigated area and the other in an un-irrigated area of the Delhi Province. The cost of the scheme had been estimated at Rs.10.15 lakhs. The scheme had been recommanded by the Advisory Board which also suggested that it should be preceded by a preliminary survey. The survey had been undertaken with the approval of the Vice-Chairman in anticipation of the sanction of the Governing Body and it had cost about Rs.5,000. Reports of the survey had been prepared. The Standing Finance Committee had recommended that the action of the Vice-Chairman in initiating the survey, in anticipation of the approval of the Governing Body might be approved and that the main scheme should be sanctioned. The Committee had also recommended that a sum of Rs.8 lakhs only should be allotted to this scheme for the present and that efforts should be made to keep the expenditure on the scheme within this amount.

Rai Bahadur B.N. Sarkar inquired whether the pilot scheme was meant for Delhi only or for other provinces also?

The Vice-Chairman said that the idea in having the scheme near Delhi was that as all experts were here and the Council's meetings were also held here, the advice of all these experts and bodies would thus be readily available. The local and outside experts while visiting Delhi in connection with the meetings could see that was actually being done and give advise for future work. It was for this reason that the scheme was to be started near Delhi. If the scheme proved successful, ~~prelnv~~ provincial Governments would be in a position to take up similar schemes.

Rai Bahadur Sarkar said that it was an important scheme and he would suggest that one Director of Agriculture should be associated with the work, in rotation, with a view to gaining direct experience so that when the provinces took up the work, he would be able to direct it efficiently.

The Vice-Chairman said that there was not going to be Committee on which the Director of Agriculture might serve. It was proposed to have only an ad hoc committee who would just draw up the programme. The annual progress reports would be submitted to the Scientific Committees and the Advisory Board.

Mr. J. McIntyre (Director, ICI(India) Ltd.) said that the scheme was really an excellent one. He wanted to know if it was intended that technical officers should go round and show to the cultivator what to do.

The Vice-Chairman said that that was exactly the idea. When the staff would be recruited, the first condition would be that they should go and live in the villages and tell the cultivators what to do. The area had already been surveyed and there were three categories of cultivators to be considered viz.,

(1) those who were doing good work and were making good profits,
(2) those who were poor and were able only to make both ends meet and
(3) those who were losing and for whom this work was not a paying proposition.

One of the objections of the scheme would be to find out

out what were the reasons for these three different conditions. It might be that the man in the first category was well off, had better tools and good seed. The man in the second category might have some draw-backs. For instance, he might be doing something else and agriculture might be his side-line. The third man might be under heavy debts. He had discussed this matter with Sri Deshmukh Governor Reserve Bank while he was in Bombay recently and he found that he was interested in this experiment and had already sent worker to Delhi for collecting some statistics. His idea was to send his man every six months to see what progress was being made.

The Chairman inquired whether the staff would go and live in the villages and would all the teaching and demonstraction be done by them.

The Vice-Chairman said that that was the idea. The Assistants would be expected to create confidence in the villagers and to show that they were also villagers and not officials. The villagers in the beginning might not be able to follow all the directions given by these officers, but the latter would examine there to see that these directions were followed. Each Assistant who would be an agricultural graduate would be in charge of 10 villages and would have Mukaddams under him. There would be no financial burden on the villagers.

The HON'BLE MR. R.K. PATIL said that it appeared to him that this was more a development scheme rather than a research one and he desired to know whether this was really a problem for the Council to tackle.

THE CHAIRMAN said that agricultural development was one of the Council's functions. This was a kind of demonstration.

THE HON'BLE MR. R.K. PATIL said that this was just a village improvement scheme and it was doubtful whether it would yield results which would be of any benefit to other provinces.

THE CHAIRMAN asked whether it would not be premature to anticipate the failure of the scheme and to say that the results would not be satisfactory.

THE HON'BLE R.K. PATIL said that this point was that the adoption of the scheme was not likely to lead to results which would be of such a character so as to be of wider application. It was a developmental scheme and as such shou be adopted everywhere. (d

THE CHAIRMAN said that development might be a consequence of the application of research. The object was not to develop a particular area but to test out some results and if they proved suitable to apply them throughout the Indian Dominion.

THE HON'BLE MR. PATIL said that the work was of a general character and there was no item for research. He had objection not to the area but to the whole scheme itself. The scheme was too generous and was not a research scheme.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN said that the position was that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research had already decided that certain schemes of all-India importance should be undertaken by it and worked out. Development of a group of villages was one of such schemes. The Council wrote to all provincial Governments and States inviting schemes about this but not even one scheme was received. The work was however very important and the Council therefore drew up a scheme. That was how this scheme had originated.

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originated. The intention was to adopt all improved agricultural and animal husbandry practices under varying village conditions so as to convince the cultivator that such practices would really benefit him and would ensure increased production. Unless this was done in actual practice in front of cultivators the villagers would not adopt them. There was an element of what might be called "Developmental research" in i..

RAIBAHADUR R.L. SETHI (AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA) said that the I.C.A.R. had sanctioned village project schemes in various provinces and States. Results, however, had not been obtained to the satisfaction of the Council for lack of adequate supervision. One idea of stating such work in Delhi was to see how far the scheme would be successful with supervision by experts. There was a general feeling that Agricultural Experts were not showing satisfactory results. It was hoped that this scheme would provide an opportunity to Agricultural Research workers and exper to show good results. The scheme was of the nature of developmental research.

RAI BAHADUR SARKAR inquired what would be the yardstick of measurement of progress, Was it contemplated that an economic survey of these villages which were going to be taken up was to be conducted in the beginning and then every three years? There must be something by which the progress could be measured either in terms of economic development or money value or some such yeardstick should be available.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN said that a survey had already been made and it would be scrutinised by the staff of the Economic Station of the Reserve Bank of India.

MR. MCINTYRE doubted whether the scheme came under the purview of the I.C.A.R. In his opinion it was definitely a developmental scheme and should be the responsibility of the Delhi Province. The programme enumerated viz., increasing the area under cultivation and the yield by sowing improved seeds, having improved implements, better equipment and employing artificial manures made it clear that no research was involved.

MR. SATTIANATHAN said that he agreed that it was a developmental scheme and the provinces also were taking up similar work. In Madras there were 45 groups of villages where intensive application of research was carried on not only in agriculture but in co-operation, public health and everything else. This was actually being done. His feeling was that this was not an item, on which money should be spent by the I.C.A.R. who should better spend funds on real research work.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN said that the question had been raised whether the I.C.A.R. could spend this money or no The Memorandum of Association of the Council had been changed to allow it to undertake developmental work also There was therefore no question of the Council not being competent to sanction the scheme. The scheme would be worked with the full co-operation of the Delhi Administration who are providing wells, panchayat ghars and other facilities all through in the selection of the area, in the carrying out of economic survey and in everything else the Council had received their full co-operation. It was necessary to convince the cultivator that the adoption of certain practice would be to his advantage.

The Governing Body approved of the action taken by the Vice-Chairman to have a preliminary survey and sanctioned the expenditure which had already been incurred in that connection.

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It also sanctioned the scheme as recommended by the Standing Finance Committee.

Subject No.13

Programme of research for the productio food crops during the next five years

The Vice-Chairman said that, while addressing the Advisory Board of the Council in February, 1948, the Hon'ble the Chairman of the Council stressed the desirability of undertaking research with the object of increasing food production so that India might become self-sufficient in food-grains as early as possible. The Agricultural Commissioner prepared a note in the form of suggestion to the Provinces, as to what should be done. The note was considered by the Committees of the Council and then by its Advisory Board. The Advisory Board appreciated the efforts made by the Agricultural Commissioner, but suggested that certain legislative measures should also be undertaken in order to achieve the object in view. Consequently an ad hoc Committee was appointed by the Advisory Board to consider this question. The Committee met almost immediately and recommended that legislation should be undertaken by the provinces and states on the following subjects,

1. Land Improvement (Soil and Water conservation).
2. Conservation of village manurial resources. etc.,
3. Prevention of wastage by Municipalities, Corporations, Notified areas etc., of all town refuse.
4. Compulsory castration of unfit and useless whenever Government can provide good bulls
5. Compulsory consolidation of holdings.
6. Prohibition of division and fragmentation of holdings beyond a minimum standard unit, the size of which is to be determined according to local conditions.
7. The declaration and protection of fish breeding grounds as sancturaries.
8. Compulsory utilization of all suitable enclosed areas of fresh water for Pisciculture.
9. Legislation on the lines of the Madras and Bombay acts for the prevention and control of crop pests and diseases.
10. Prohibition of stray cattle including Brhamni bulls.

The Advisory Board approved of the suggestions contained in the Note prepared by the Agricultural Commissioner and the recommendations made by the ad hoc Committee regarding legislation and recommended that the suggestions and recommendations be brought to the notice of the provinces and States for further action.

The Governing Body approved of these recommendations.

Subject No.14.

Establishment of a Central Potato Research Institute.

The Vice-Chairman said that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research had been carrying on research for a very long time on potato at the Simla and Bhowali Research Stations. It was felt later on that it was necessary to take up more intensive work and that there should be a Potato Research Institute. In August, 1945 the Governing Body of the Council held that since this particular research work was of a long-term nature it should be taken over by Government as part of their post-war developmental programme. The Government of India decided that a Central Potato Research Institute should be sponsored, coordinated and financed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The Government of India had accordingly requested the Council to undertake the scheme of establishment of Potato Research Institute and had p.t.o.

Set up to handle all problems connected with new crops. That committee recommended, however at the insistance of the Hon'ble Finance Minister, that all such research should be

and had promised to place the necessary funds at the disposal of the Council for the purpose. The Advisory Board and the Standing Finance Committee of the Council had approved of the proposal. The question of administration of the Institute would be discussed later between the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Ministry of Agriculture, but at the present moment, the work and the grant be accepted.

The Hon'ble Mr. Kanungo said that the original idea was that the Government of India would take up the whole project on its own account as they had done in the case of institutions connected with cotton, rice, jute etc. Potato was a crop which was of immense importance and its importance had been specifically stressed in the report of the committee which went into the question of the Bengal Famine. If the Indian Council of Agricultural Research were to take up the establishment and maintenance of this Research station then ultimately it might have to take up other Research Stations also. It would be better that this type of work should be done by the Central Government. It would perhaps be taking too much of a burden by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, if it undertook this responsibility. If financial conditions did not permit the Government of India to take it up now, it could do so later on, but he strongly felt that it was not the work which Indian Council of Agricultural Research should take up.

Mr. B.R. Sen (Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture) said that it had been suggested for the first time, that a permanent research institute should be placed under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research had been established to co-ordinate research all over the country. That was its main function. It was, in fact, definitely stated in the Resolution creating the Council that it should not take the responsibility for looking after permanent research institutes. The question of the jurisdiction of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research would have to be considered. In the meanwhile the Standing Finance Committee or the Council had agreed that pending a final decision on this particular point, the establishment of a research institute, under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, might be approved as a temporary measure, provided Government of India provided funds.

Agriculture was a provincial subject but the responsibility of the Centre had now increased. For instance, for one reason or another the Centre was at present financing the Grow more Food campaign. The Centre was not only trying to co-ordinate the work of the provincial Governments and providing finances but also taking up different responsiblities which originally belonged to the provinces. In 1947 a Department of Agriculture was created. In the new constitution it had been proposed that the position of the Centre vis-avis the provinces should be clearly defined in the light of the present conditions. Therefore, the time had now come when it would be necessary to review the entire position regarding the functions of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Hon'ble the Chairman said that he understood that it was not the intention to re-open the issue that had been settled at the meeting of the Standing Finance Committee of the Council. What should be the scope and function of the council and what should be the function of the Ministry of Agriculture could be considered later on. Meanwhile, if it was the sense of the House the proposals might be approved.

The Governing Body approved of the proposals as explained by the Vice-Chairman.

Subject No. 15.

Subject No.15.

Contribution to the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux. London.

The Vice-Chairman said that the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux were financed by the various Governments constituting the British Commonwealth of Nations on a co-operative basis and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research had been contributing to the Bureaux on behalf of India since its inception. The Council's contribution which in 1930 amounted to £1197/- increased to £3529.1.3 in 1946. The Imperial Agricultural Bureaux Review Conference of 1946 fixed India's contribution to the Bureaux £10,926/- (Rs.1,46,160) per annum. The point for consideration was what part of this contribution should be borne by the Council.

The Standing Finance Committee of the Council had recommended that 3/11 ths of India's contribution should be paid by the Pakistan Dominion and that 25% of the balance should be paid by the Council. On this basis I.C.A.R.'s share would be Rs.26,600/- per annum. The suggestion was that since a portion of the country had now been transferred to Pakistan that Dominion should bear the proportionate charge on account of the contributions. The Standing Finance Committee had recommended that the Council should pay only 25% of the balance of the contribution to be paid by India, the remaining amount being paid by the Departments of the Government of India concerned and the Indian Research Fund Association. The contribution of the Council as suggested would then come to Rs.26,600/- per annum.

The Governing Body approved ~~th~~ of the proposals.

Subject No.16.

Basis for financing schemes at the Central Institutes.

The Vice-Chairman said that there had been a lot of controversy as regards the liability of the Council to finance research schemes at the Central Institutes. After going through the whole matter it was recommended by the Committees, the Advisory Board and the Standing Finance Committee that the position of the Research Institutes vis-a-vis the Indian Council of Agricultural Research should be as follows:

(i) if no additional staff was required for undertaking the proposed investigation at the Central Institutes the Council should not pay any contribution;

(ii) if the Institute wished to take up any special problems for investigation, which were outside their sanctioned programme of work, and if the Council's assistance was sought for the purpose, the Council's contribution should be limited to 50% of only the recurring cost of the scheme, and

(i) if the Council asked the Institute to take up any particular scheme for which additional staff was necessary the Council should bear the entire cost of such staff.

These were the three principles which had been recommended for sanction.

The Governing Body approved of the proposals

Subject No.17.

Appointment of a Cattle Insurance Committee

The Vice-Chairman said that this matter h engaging the attention of the Council for a very long time.

long-time. The Council was anxious to do everythi-- possible in order to improve cattle-breeding in th country. Herd books for pedigree registration was one of the improvements. The present proposal was to constitute an ad hoc Committee and appointed a small staff for collecting necessary data and formulating a scheme on cattele insurance in India. There were no data available in the country about cattle insurance and it was not possible for Indian insuance companies to show the way as to how the insurance was to be effected. The matter would have to be examined in detail. The intention was to make a preliminary survey and collect data which would be placed before the Committees and then before the Advisory Board. The proposed Committee would be responsible for collecting the data and other particulars. The total cost in this connection would be Rs.15,800. The price of pedigree cattele had gone up considerably. Recently one pedigree Sahiwal heifer fetched Rs.1,300/-, and a Hariana would cost Rs.900/-. It would, therefore, be an advantage to breeders to have such valuable animals insured and the Council should show them the way by which this could be done.

The Governing Body approved of the proposal.

Subject No.18.

Non-recurring grant for the construction of an insect-proof house under the seed-potato certification scheme at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute.

The Vice-Chairman said that amount sanctioned by the Governing Body for the Seed Potato certification scheme Indian Agricultural Research Institute in 1943 included a sum of Rs.14,000/- for the construction of two insect proof houses at the Institute. The estimate of cost was subsequently revised by the Central P.W.D. to Rs.32,880, and again to Rs.44,500/- for one house, while the actual cost of the house came to Rs.46,100/-. This was a substantial amount and as the building was a permanent fixture at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, it had been suggested that the Government of India should be asked to refund the amount spent by the Council. It might be mentioned that such items of expenditure were as a rule borne by the Government under which the research was conducted. The Standing Finance Committee had recommended that the Government of India should be requested to refund the cost to the Council.

The Governing Body approved of the proposal.

Subject No.19.

Continuance of the Veterinary (Diseases) Investigation Officer scheme in certain provinces and Hyderabad State

The Vice-Chairman said that this scheme had been going on for a very long time. It had been felt that as the scheme had proved its usefulness and the provinces had begun to realise the usefulness, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research should cease financing it any more and ask the provinces to take it up. Consequently, Bombay, U.P., Bihar and Orissa had agreed to take over the scheme but East Punjab, West Bengal and Assam were not in a position to do so immediately. The Standing Finance Committee has recommended that in the case of East Punjab, West Bengal and Assam the Council might continue financing the scheme for 2 years with effect from Ist April, 1948 and in the case of other provinces who were not able to take up the scheme, it might be financed for one year more from that date.

The Hon'ble Capt. Ranjit Singh said that even after two years East Punjab might not be able to finance this scheme wholly. So his submission was that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research should continue its help in financing the scheme even after two years on a 50:50 basis until the provinces affected by the partition of the country were in a position to take it over.

The Chairman said that the matter could be reviewed after two years in the case of these provinces.

Subject to this, the proposal was approved by the Governing Body.

Subject No.20.

Maintenance of Indian Council of Agricultural Research Provident Fund Accounts

The Vice-Chairman said that the accounts of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Provident Fund were at present kept by the officers in charge of the Council's schemes. This had led to inaccuracies and inconsistency of practice. This arrangement also involved loss of interest to the Council and consequently to the subscribers, as it was impracticable to withdraw the money from places scattered all over India (where the Council's schemes were running) from time to time, collect it and then invest it profitably. It was proposed, therefore, to centralise the balances of the Fund and the accounts of the subscribers. For this purpose, it was proposed to create a small section in the Council's Secretariat to attend to this work. This Section would also be responsible for all other work connected with the administration of the Fund. The Standing Finance Committee had recommended the proposal for sanction subject to the condition that the additional staff required would be settled by the Vice-Chairman in consultation with the Financial Adviser.

The Governing Body approved of the proposal

Subject No.21.

Constitution of a Medicinal Plants Committee.

The Vice-Chairman said that the need for having a Committee of this type had been felt for some time but nothing had been done by so far. A lot of work on medicinal plants had been done by different workers like Col. Chopra and it was necessary to have a Committee to go into the whole problem and to initiate research work.

The Advisory Board had recommended that a Standing Committee on Medical Plants should be constituted to deal with research on medicinal plants from all aspects

The Committee would consist of

1. The representative of the Indian Research Fund Association.
2. One representative of the Forest Research Institute.
3. One representative of the Botanical Survey of India.
4. One representative of the Bureau of Plant Industry.
5-6. Two representatives of the Pharmaceutical Industry.
7. The Director of the Central Drugs Control Laboratory.
8. One representative of the Haffkine Institute
9. One systematic botanist.
10. One plant physiologist.
11. One member to be nominated by the Vice-Chairmain, I.C.A.R.
12. Col. R.N. Chopra.

Besides the above, the following would be ex-official members of the Committee.

1. Vice-Chairman, I.C.A.R. (Chairman)
2. Agricultural Commissioner with the Governmentof India: Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
3. Principal, Central Agricultural College.
4. Director, Indian Agricultural Research Institute.
5. One representative of the Ministry of Health, Government of India.
6. Director, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

The proposal was for the approval by the Governing Body.

The Governing Body approved of the proposal.

Subject No.21(a).

Constitution of a High Power Committee to review the work so far done by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and to suggest lines of work for the future.

The Vice-Chairman said that at its meeting held recently, the Advisory Board expressed the view that the time had come for reviewing the work done so far by the Council, and on that basis for making changes in the organisation and method of financing agricultural research in this country if necessary. The Board recommended that a small Committee should be appointed to review the work so far done by the Indian Counci of Agricultural Research and to suggest the lines one which future research should conducted. The Board recommended that the constitution of the Cttee should be left

The Chairman suggested that the name of the Committee might be "Research Re-organisation Committee."

Subject to the above.. the Governing Body.

to be settled by the Vice-Chairman in consultation with the Govt. and the other bodies concerned.

Subject No.22.

Scheme for the production of educative films for the benefit of Indian farmers.

The Vice-Chairman said that the Government of India were having agricultural films produced among others through the Information Films of India Organisation. This Organisation was abolished some time back. A proposal for the production of an educative film for Indian Farmers was then placed before the Advisory Board in(March, 1947) and was recommanded by it for sanction at a cost of Rs.50,000/-

The Government of India had now revived its Films organisation and it was no longer necessary for the Council to undertake this work separately. It was proposed, therefore, to drop the proposal recommended by the Advisory Board.

The Governing Body approved of the

Subject No.23

ote on Water Requirements of Crops, Punjab.

The Vice-Chairman said that the scheme of water requirements of Crops Punjab was sanctioned up to the 31st March, 1949. The East Punjab Government had intimated that it did not propose to continue this scheme for the present. The matter was for the information of the Governing Body.

The Governing Body noted this.

Subject No.24

Green Manuring Survey.

The Vice-Chairman said that as the members were aware, the Governing Body sanctioned in 1944 a scheme for the appointment of a special officer to investigagete ways and means for making Green Manuring popular. Owing to the difficulty of finding a suitably qualified officer, the scheme could not be taken in hand till May, 1946 when Mr. Surjan Singh Sindhu was appointed to take charge of the work. He had already completed the work and submitted his report which would be placed before the Governing Body in due course.

The total amount spent was Rs.41,800/-

The Governing Body noted the position.

Subject No.25.

Scheme for investigation of Tuberculosis and Johnes Disease, I.V.R.I., Extension 1947-48 - Additional grant (Rs.12,142).

The Vice-Chairman said that the Governing Body sanctioned the extension of the scheme for investigation into Tuberculosis and Johne's Disease, Indian Veterinary Research Institute for one year from 1st April, 1947, at a cost of Rs.31,358. The revised estimates of expenditure however, came to Rs.43,500 OWING TO INCLUSION OF PROVISION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GOWALAS, purchase of chemicals and increased provisionfor the purchase and upkeep of animals. The proposal was that the additional expenditure of Rs.12,142 might be approved. The Animal Husbandry Comissioner was of the opinion that it was unavoidable. The proposal had been recommended by the Standing Finance Committee.

The Governing Body approved of the proposal.

Subject No.26.

Grant of travelling allowance to members of Governing Body, Advisory Board and Committe the Indian Council of Agricultural Research per forming journeys by air.

The Vice-Chairman said that non-official members of the Indian Council of Agricultural Researhh included eminent scientists and representatives of the trade, the universities and other interests. With a view to economising in time, they prefer sometimes to travel by air. According to the present rules, if anybody came by air, he was paid only on the basis of railway fares. The matter was discussed by the Standing Finance Committee and that Committee suggested that, as in the case of otherDeptts., the Vice-Chairman as the head of the Department should be authorised to allow any officer to come by air, if it was found necessary in the interest of work ∂ó to do so the rate of travelling allowance allowed in such cases should be regulated in accordance with rules applicable to first grade officers of the Central Government entitled to travel by air.

Mr. B.R. Sen said that in special cases the Vice-Chairman should be authorised to allow members to come by air, because scientists could not afford to pay money from their own pockets, and they could not also afford to be away from their headquarter for a long time.

The proposal was approved by the Governing Body.

Subject No.27.

Payment of actual travelling expenses to Dr. Swallhay for attending the meeting of the Standing Finance Committee in June, 1947.

The Vice-Chairman said that Dr. Swallhay, a member of the Standing Finance Committee, came to attend the meeting of the Committee held in June, 1947 from Nainital and returned to that place after the meeting. He claimed travelling allowance from Nainital, where he was spending his vacation instead of from Aligarh, where he usually resided. In accordance with a past precedent he had been paid actual expenses for the journey. The amount involved was Rs.109/-/8/- only. The payment might be approved It had been recommended by the Standing Finance Committee.

The Standing Finance Committee had also recommended that the Vice-Chairman might be authorised to pay actual expenses in future whenever he considered it necessary to do so on the merits of the case.

The proposals were approved by the Governing Body.

Subject No.28.

Any other business. Experiments operative and collective farming.

The Chairman said that he would like members to express their views on the proposal that at two places experiments should be carried out under more or less similar conditions on co-operative and collective farming practices under the auspices of the Council to find out their relative advantages.

Mr. Sattianathan inquired whether collective farming was not also co-operative farming?

The Hon'ble Mr. Patil said that in collective farming the whole plot was collectively cultivated whereas in co-operative farming there were individual plots and only certain functions were done on a co-operative basis, e.g. ploughing by tractors or some other similar functions. In the latter case incentive was left to the individual co-operators.

Mr. Sattianathan said that both were co-operative farming. In Madras the system tried was that the society would own the land for co-operative holding and would make collective farming.

Dr. Shirname (Agricultural Marketing Adviser) said that in a report submitted to the Government of India, a recommendation had been made that collective farming as it was being developed in Russia and Palestine might not be suitable under Indian conditions, because of the differences in culture, education, caste system and all that. Collective farming was successful amongst the Jews in Palestine. All farming operations were done collectively living was collective, the bringing up of children was collective, as well education insurance and all other social and economic matters. There was no question of vate property. The co-operative farm proper was organise on land which belonged to the State and there the whole farm was divided into small units of size ranging from 20 to 30 acres according to the productivity of the soil.

Each family was allotted some land and they cultivated that plot on their own responsiblity, the only condition being that no outside labour was used. The family had to own the farm and the restrictions were that the land belonged to the society as a whole and could not be transferred.

Rai Bahadur Sarkar said that in Bihar Mr. Dip Narain Sinha, member of the Constituent Assembly, had started certain co-operative farms. He, therefore, suggested that if any scheme on co-operative farming was sponsored by the Council Mr. Sinha's work might also be kept in view.

The Hon'ble Mr. Kanungo said that it would be useful if by concrete results it could be shown which type of farming would be more suitable under particular conditions. Co-operative farming could be done in various stages. Marketing could be done by groups of farmers who could joint together into a society for limited purposes e.g. purchase of implements, purchase of seeds, marketing of products etc. and they could expand their activities and go into the full aspects of crop production. His suggestion was that schemes should be invited from different provinces and individuals who were prepared to work them out, and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research at headquarters might prepare a scheme of its own. The Governing Body and the Advisory Board would be in a position to get them, and to see which scheme had got the best chance of success. Any effort of that kind would, however, depend upon the man on the spot and unless the man who had to do it prepared the scheme himself and knew this own material and the limitations of the population, their habits and all other relevant factors, his scheme would not work.

The Hon'ble Capt. Singh said that East Punjab took up this matter when people started migrating into the province. It was thought that if land was allotted to groups rather than to individuals one step would be taken towards this co-operative farming but eventually it was found that people were not so educated as to work in a collective manner. In the Punjab especially, if there was a common water-course, people would not go even to clear it. In East Punjab there were certain facilities at present. The land left behind by Muslims could be utilised but so far no concrete scheme had been worked out. A co-operative garden farming, a co-operative society of farms, about 1,000 acres in each district, allotting about 30 acres of land to each garden had been started and this formed a co-operative society for nursery purposes, for buying implements, for cold storage, for grading and packing and co-operative marketing.

The Vice-Chairman said that his personal views on these two aspects were as follows:-

These were two quite different problems, though co-operative farming could come under collective farming. If he was permitted to say so, Co-operative movement had failed in India. He had been to Coorg only ten days back and there he found that there was a co-operative farm where bee-keeping and honey making was being done with success. That was becuase the members were educated. Ninety per cent of the people in India were poor and uneducated and co-operative efforts would not always prove a success. If co-operative society was to be worked out with success, it should be based on certain principles. For instance so long as it is not possible to give cultivators or small share-holders of co-operative societies, the price on consideration that he would be getting in the open market by selling individually he would not be willing to join in a co-operative endeavour. In the past, co-operative societies, co-operative banks, etc. had cropped up under the

the guidance or at the instances of officials of the district. It was essential that the members of co-operative societies should realise that it was their own society, that they had to work it and they had got their hands in its administration. If it was possible to organise co-operative societies of small holders, if it was possible to find out ways and means of collecting all their commodities and paying them on the spot what they expected and then by selling them at better price give them something by way of dividends the society would prosper. In the Delhi village improvement scheme on attempt would be made to collect all the milk which might be surplus after consumption, market it at Delhi and pay the producers remunerative prices. By obtaining a better price for the milk it was proposed to pay them a dividend also. Similarly, it was intended to give them all the improved seed varieties for sowing purposes and then to buy their produce and sell them again. Collective farming, could be tried only when it was proposed to break new land or undertake colonisation. In collective farming mixed farming should be practised, otherwise, collective farming might not be of much use....

The Vice-Chairman added that when he visited Denmark in 1931, he found that Government possessed a lot of land and the people were being colonised on the basis of 9 acres of land per individual cultivator. Government gave them the plans of the building their lay-out and what all they were to do under collective farming. They were to have two acres under fodders and green crops, a number of poultry birds, 6 sheep, two grown up cattle and so forth. Everbody after his school education had to take a course in dairy science for one year before he took up anything else and thus every body more or less was educated in farming. They selected their own managers, and every 20 such holdings had a Co-operative society, where all their surplus commodities were taken for marketing and their requirements in the matter of stores and provisions were supplied by the co-operative society.

The Hon'ble Mr. Patil said his suggestion was that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research should invite schemes from provinces on co-operative and collective farming and Indian Council of Agricultural Research should also produce a scheme of its own for being worked by provinces as were willing to take up the work.

R. B. Sethi said that in his opinion, collective farming should be the last step in the ladder. That would presuppose that the State Control would be complete and the person joining should be well-educated to understand the various practices. The first step would be consolidation of farming, that is, the cultivators should grow their crops together.

There should be joint management and supervisors and chawkidars would have to look after the whole field jointly. Then there might be consolidation of holdings on the lines adopted in the U.P. In any co-operative endeavour in this country official supervision would be very necessary. In collective farming where the farmer would lose his individual identity, control should be completely of the State and the whole thing should be taken by the officials in their own hands.

The Chairman said that unless two conditions existed co-operative farming could not be a success in India. There were two conditions in Russia, firstly the thing was largely imposed from above and the system of Government was such that the people submitted to whatever orders, regulations

and economic structures were imposed on them. The second condition was that the people on the whole were educated--educated in the sense that they understood the advantage of co-operation and easily responded to whatever the advantage of co-operation and easily responded to whatever orders they received from the Government or the officials. Unless these two conditions existed, co-operation in India as a whole would not be a practical proposition. It was necessary, however, to find out way as to how these practices could be adopted with advantage and success. The proposal made by the C.P. if adopted would involve delay. If a circular letter was sent to provinces asking them whether they had got any scheme for co-operation, it would take months before such scheme could be put into operation. If any province felt that in trying some experiments in this line, they needed friendly suggestions from the centre, I mean from the Indian Council, somebody might go and help them in preparing a scheme In this way some fruitful result might be arrived at. There might be a resolution that Indian Council of Agricultural Research should actively assist provinces and States in speeding up their schemes of co-operative farming.

The Hon'ble Mr. Patil said that this assistance might include some financial assistance also.

The Chairman said that it could not be from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

The Chairman said that after the problem of food production had been discussed, it might be possible to decide this issue. The Council could adopt a resolution that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research should place at the services of the provinces and States who required it, all the experience and technical advice which was available to the Council for the furtherance of the programme of co-operative farming.

The Governing Body approved of the suggestion made by the Chairman and adopted the above Resolution.

/True Copy/

Office Assistant,
Madras Record-Office.

To A.S.

Please see the letter from the I.C.A.R. on p.31 c.f. The Council has furnished a copy of the proceedings of the governing Body meeting held on 29-1-48. The proceedings on pp.33-63 c.f. may be perused. No remarks ean are called for. The papers may now be recorded. (The proceedings of the Grow More Food Conference referred to at A on p.14 above were received by A.III).

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G.O.Ms.No.4737, dated 17-9-1948.

Agriculture - I.C.A.R. - Proceedings of the meeting of the Governing Body of the Council held on 29-1-1948 - Papers - Recorded -

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/True Copy/

R. Thayaraman
2.2.5
Office Assistant,
~~Superintendent,~~
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PWD 19-1-54 JAC 19.1.54